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PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re application of

Docket No: A7696

Martin E. FERMAN, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/576,772

Group Art Unit: 2828

Confirmation No.: 4224

Examiner: James A. MENEFFEE

Filed: May 23, 2000

For: MODULAR, HIGH ENERGY, WIDELY-TUNABLE ULTRAFAST FIBER SOURCE

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 27, 2002, please consider the following remarks:

REMARKS

Claims 1-74 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 30-57 and 62-74 are withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Claims 1-29 and 58-61 presently stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,072,811 ("811 patent").

Because the respective claims in the present application and claim 1 of the '811 patent are drawn to very different inventions and because the present claims under examination are not obvious variants of claim 1 of the '811 patent, Applicant respectfully traverses the double-patenting rejection. For example, claims 1-29 and 58-61 of the present application are each drawn to a laser system comprising, among other things, a seed source. More particularly, claims 1-29 and 58 each require;